

REMARKS

Interview Summary

Applicant thanks Examiner Kane and Examiner Del Sole for their time on November 6, 2007, to conduct a telephonic interview with the undersigned and the inventor. During the interview, Montville and claim 1 were discussed. It was agreed that the claims would be amended to recite use, by the service, of a public/private key associated with the service (and not associated with any particular participant – sender or receiver). No exhibits were shown or discussed.

Claim Objections

Claim 47 has been amended to clarify that, at the receiver's side, a request is sent (not processed) to obtain contact information about the sender from the service.

Claim Rejections – Section 112

Claim 11 is cancelled.

The claims have been amended to remove the word “nominally.”

Claim 49 has been amended to recite that the advertising is “sender advertising.”

Double Patenting

Claim 11 is cancelled.

Claim 8 is cancelled.

Claims 21 and 22 are not duplicate. Claim 21 recites associating a physical location with the sender, whereas claim 22 recites determining how the sender may be later located.

Claim 41 is cancelled.

Prior-Art Based Rejections

Claim 1, and other claims as appropriate, have been amended as agreed to during the interview, to recite use, by the service, of a private key associated with the service. Furthermore, the receiving side uses a complementary public key associated with the service. Note, for example, paragraph [0032] of Applicant's specification, reciting in part “the public key associated with the service 104 is used to decode the service-determined result incorporated into the received e-mail message, to determine a decoded service-determined result.”

The Examiners agreed during the interview that this feature distinguishes over Montville. None of the secondary references relied upon (i.e., in the obviousness rejections) disclose or suggest such a feature.

CONCLUSION

Applicant believes that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,
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